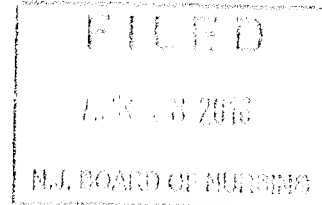
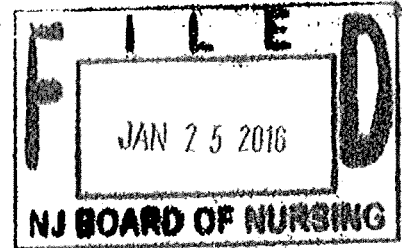


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STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION  
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

Ripsa Osei, C.H.H.A.  
Certificate No. 26NH11161000

PROVISIONAL ORDER OF  
DISCIPLINE

☒ FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE  
(Finalized by default  
on April 18, 2016 / 04/18/16)

HOMEMAKER-HOME HEALTH AIDE  
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

**FINAL**

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following preliminary findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Ripsa Osei ("Respondent") is a certified homemaker-home health aide in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto. (Exhibit A).

2. Upon receipt of a flagging notice indicating that Respondent was arrested on May 15, 2015 by the Holmdel Police Department for violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:20-3A, Theft of Movable Property, the Board sent a letter of inquiry, requesting certain information and submission of documents, to Respondent's address of record in Trenton, New Jersey, via regular and certified mail on or about May 22, 2015. A response was due within twenty (20) days. The regular mailing was not returned; the certified mailing was returned signed with a delivery date of June 1, 2015. To date, Respondent has not responded to the Board's request for information. (Exhibit B).

3. According to information obtained through the Automated Complaint System, Respondent was employed as a homemaker-home health aide to patient E.M. and allegedly stole approximately nine thousand dollars (\$9,000) in cash, a Garmin Nuvi valued at two hundred dollars (\$200), and a tablet computer valued at one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) belonging to the patient's husband. (Exhibit C).

4. In a signed confession at the East Windsor Police Department, Respondent admitted to taking five thousand dollars (\$5,000) over time money from her patient and her patient's husband. (Exhibit D).

5. On July 23, 2015, Respondent was found guilty of Theft of Movable Property, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:20-3A and sentenced on November 6, 2015 to two (2) years' probation and assessed \$5, 170.00. (Exhibit E).

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's failure to respond to the Board's request for information constitutes a failure to cooperate with a Board investigation, in contravention of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2 and 1.3, which the Board deems professional misconduct pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), subjecting Respondent to disciplinary action pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h).

Respondent's admission to stealing five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and a tablet and conviction demonstrate that Respondent has engaged in acts constituting a crime which relates adversely to the activity regulated by the Board, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(f), and dishonesty, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b), subjected Respondent to disciplinary action.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016  
ORDERED that, UPON THE FILING OF A FINAL ORDER OF  
DISCIPLINE:

1. Respondent's certificate to practice as a homemaker-home health aide will be suspended for a minimum of five (5) years. At the Board's discretion, Respondent may be required to

appear before the Board prior to any application for reinstatement and establish rehabilitation.

2. Upon the filing of a FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE, Respondent shall refrain from engaging in the practice as a certified homemaker-home health aide and shall not represent herself as a certified homemaker-home health aide, which includes but is not limited to performing delegated nursing regimens or nursing tasks delegated through the authority of a duly licensed professional nurse, until such time as her certification is reinstated. Any practice as a certified homemaker-home health aide in this State prior to such reinstatement shall constitute grounds for a charge of unlicensed practice.

3. Upon the filing of a FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE, Respondent shall promptly, within 5 (five) days, mail her certificate, wall and wallet version, to practice as a homemaker-home health aide to Twalema Khonje, State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

4. Respondent is provisionally assessed a civil penalty in the amount of five thousand two hundred dollars (\$5,200). five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for the conduct in which Respondent engaged and an additional two hundred dollars (\$200) for failing to respond to the Board's inquiry. Payment shall be

made by certified check, bank cashier check, or money order payable to "State of New Jersey," or by wire transfer, direct deposit, or credit card payment delivered or mailed to Twalema Khonje, State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Any other form of payment will be rejected and will be returned to the party making the payment. Payment shall be made no later than fifteen (15) days after the date of filing of a FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE. In the event Respondent fails to make a timely payment, a certificate of debt shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-24 and the Board may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.

6. The within order shall be subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30<sup>th</sup> day following entry hereof unless Respondent requests a modification or dismissal of the above stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by:

- a) Submitting a written request for modification or dismissal to Twalema Khonje, State Board of Nursing, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101.
- b) Setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed.
- c) Submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting Respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor or offered in mitigation of penalty.

7. Any submissions will be reviewed by the Board and the Board will thereafter determine whether further proceedings are necessary. If no material discrepancies are raised through a supplemental submission during the thirty-day period, or if the Board is not persuaded that the submitted materials merit further consideration, a FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE will be entered.

8. In the event that Respondent's submissions establish a need for further proceedings, including, but not limited to an evidentiary hearing, Respondent shall be notified with regard thereto. In the event that an evidentiary hearing is ordered, the preliminary findings of fact and conclusions of law contained herein may serve as notice of the factual and legal allegations in such proceeding. Further, in the event a hearing is held and upon review of the record, the Board shall not be limited to the findings, conclusions and sanctions stated herein.

9. In the event that the Board receives no written request for modification or dismissal within 30 days following entry of this Provisional Order of Discipline, without further Board review, all referenced preliminary Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and all provisional sanctions or penalties imposed by this Order shall automatically become the Final

Decision and Order of the Board. Thereafter, Respondent's failure to comply with any sanction or penalty imposed by this Order shall be considered a violation of a Board Order in contravention of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21 (e) and (h) and N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4 and may subject Respondent to additional sanction and/or penalty.

10. The Board reserves the right to initiate disciplinary proceedings based upon any information that Respondent ultimately provides in response to the letter of inquiry or upon any new information the Board receives.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: 

Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN  
President